

**Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA**

**§51.1437**

**§51.1433 U.S. Commercial Halves.**

The requirements for this grade are the same as those for U.S. No. 1 Halves except:

(a) For quality:

(1) No requirement for uniformity of color; and,

(2) Increased tolerances for defects (see §51.1439); and,

(b) For size:

(1) No requirement for uniformity of size.

**§51.1434 U.S. Commercial Halves and Pieces.**

The requirements for this grade are the same as those for U.S. No. 1 Halves and Pieces except:

(a) For quality:

(1) No requirement for uniformity of color; and,

(2) Increased tolerances for defects. (See §51.1439.)

**§51.1435 U.S. Commercial Pieces.**

The requirements for this grade are the same as those for U.S. No. 1 Pieces except for:

(a) Increased tolerances for defects. (See §51.1439.)

**COLOR CLASSIFICATIONS**

**§51.1436 Color classifications.**

(a) The skin color of pecan kernels may be described in terms of the color classifications provided in this section. When the color of kernels in a lot generally conforms to the "light" or "light amber" classification, that color classification may be used to describe the lot in connection with the grade.

(1) "Light" means that the kernel is mostly golden color or lighter, with not more than 25 percent of the surface darker than golden, and none of the surface darker than light brown.

(2) "Light amber" means that the kernel has more than 25 percent of its surface light brown, but not more than 25 percent of the surface darker than light brown, and none of the surface darker than medium brown.

(3) "Amber" means that the kernel has more than 25 percent of the surface medium brown, but not more than 25 percent of the surface darker than medium brown, and none of the surface darker than dark brown (very dark-

brown or blackish-brown discoloration).

(4) "Dark amber" means that the kernel has more than 25 percent of the surface dark brown, but not more than 25 percent of the surface darker than dark brown (very dark-brown or blackish-brown discoloration).

(b) U.S. Department of Agriculture kernel color standards, PEC-MC-1, consisting of plastic models of pecan kernels, illustrate the color intensities implied by the terms "golden," "light brown," "medium brown," and "dark brown" referred to in paragraph (a) of this section. These color standards may be examined in the Fruit and Vegetable Division, AMS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, South Building, Washington, D.C. 20250; in any field office of the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Inspection Service; or upon request of any authorized inspector of such Service. Duplicates of the color standards may be purchased from NASCO, Fort Atkinson, Wis. 53538.

**SIZE CLASSIFICATIONS**

**§51.1437 Size classifications for halves.**

The size of pecan halves in a lot may be specified in accordance with one of the size classifications shown in Table I:

**TABLE I**

Size classifications for halves	Number of halves per pound
Mammoth .....	250 or less.
Junior mammoth .....	251-300.
Jumbo .....	301-350.
Extra large .....	351-450.
Large .....	451-550.
Medium .....	551-650.
Small (topper) .....	651-750.
Midget .....	751 or more.

(a) The number of halves per pound shall be based upon the weight of half-kernels after all pieces, particles and dust, shell, center wall, and foreign material have been removed.

(b) In lieu of the size classifications in Table I, the size of pecan halves in a lot may be specified in terms of the number of halves or a range of numbers of halves per pound. For example, "400" or "600-700".

(c) Tolerance for count per pound: In order to allow for variations incident

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to proper sizing, a tolerance shall be permitted as follows:

(1) When an exact number of halves per pound is specified, the actual count per pound may vary not more than 5 percent from the specified number; and,

(2) When any size classification shown in Table I or a range in count per pound is specified, no tolerance shall be allowed for counts outside of the specified range.

(d) *Tolerances for pieces, particles, and dust.* In order to allow for variations incident to proper sizing and handling, not more than 15 percent, by weight, of any lot may consist of pieces, particles, and dust: *Provided*, That not more than one-third of this amount, or 5 percent, shall be allowed for portions less than one-half of a complete half-kernel, including not more than 1 percent for particles and dust.

§51.1438 Size classifications for pieces.

The size of pecan pieces in a lot may be specified in accordance with one of the size classifications shown in Table II.

TABLE II

Size classification	Maximum diameter (will pass through round opening of following diameter)	Minimum diameter (will not pass through round opening of following diameter) (inch)
Mammoth pieces ...	No limitation .....	8/16
Extra large pieces ..	9/16 inch .....	7/16
Halves and pieces .....	No limitation .....	5/16
Large pieces .....	9/16 inch .....	5/16
Medium pieces .....	9/16 inch .....	3/16
Small pieces .....	4/16 inch .....	2/16
Midget pieces .....	3/16 inch .....	1/16
Granules .....	2/16 inch .....	1/16

(a) In lieu of the size classifications in Table II, the size of pieces in a lot may be specified in terms of minimum diameter, or as a range described in terms of minimum and maximum diameters expressed in sixteenths or sixty-fourths of an inch.

(b) Tolerances for size of pieces: In order to allow for variations incident to proper sizing, tolerances are provided for pieces in a lot which fail to meet the requirements of any size specified. The tolerances, by weight, are shown in Table III.

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TABLE III  
[Percent]

Size classification	Total tolerance for offsize pieces	Tolerance (included in total tolerance) for pieces smaller than	
		3/16	1/16 i-inch
Mammoth pieces .....	15	1	.....
Extra large pieces .....	15	1	.....
Halves and pieces .....	15	1	.....
Large pieces .....	15	1	.....
Medium pieces .....	15	2	.....
Small pieces .....	15	2	.....
Midget pieces .....	15	.....	2
Granules .....	15	.....	5
Other specified size .....	15	1	.....

TOLERANCES FOR DEFECTS

§51.1439 Tolerances for defects.

In order to allow for variations incident to proper grading and handling in each of the foregoing grades, the following tolerances, by weight, are provided as specified:

(a) U.S. No. 1 Halves, U.S. No. 1 Halves and Pieces, and U.S. No. 1 Pieces grades:

(1) 0.05 percent for shell, center wall, and foreign material;

(2) 3 percent for portions of kernels which are “dark amber” or darker color, or darker than any specified lighter color classification but which are not otherwise defective; and,

(3) 3 percent for portions of kernels which fail to meet the remaining requirements of the grade, including therein not more than 0.50 percent for defects causing serious damage: *Provided*, That any unused portion of this tolerance may be applied to increase the tolerance for kernels which are “dark amber” or darker color, or darker than any specified lighter color classification.

(b) U.S. Commercial Halves, U.S. Commercial Halves and Pieces, and U.S. Commercial Pieces grades:

(1) 0.15 percent for shell, center wall, and foreign material;

(2) 25 percent for portions of kernels which are “dark amber” or darker color, or darker than any specified lighter color classification, but which are not otherwise defective; and,

(3) 8 percent for portions of kernels which fail to meet the remaining requirements of the grade, including